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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Bruno GHYSELEN et al.

Confirmation No.: 9064

Application No.: 10/637,094

Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: August 6, 2003

Examiner: Thanh V. PHAM

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
ADJUSTING THE THICKNESS OF A
LAYER OF SEMICONDUCTOR
MATERIAL

Attorney Docket No.: 4717-6300

SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the Amendment filed May 1, 2006 in response to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2005, submitted herewith is a Declaration of Bruno Ghyselen, Cécile Aulnette, and Bénédite Osternaud Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 with attached Exhibit A, which establishes that the invention of at least claims 1-16 was conceived, coupled with due diligence that continued through the constructive reduction to practice, occurred prior to July 25, 2002. Entry of this declaration into the file of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. Should any additional fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Winston & Strawn LLP's Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

May 16, 2006


E. Bradley Gould (Reg. No. 41,792)

WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
Customer No. 28765
202-282-5771

Enclosures